



CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

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CAMPAIGN 2000: U.S. SEN. DIANNE FEINSTEIN SHOWS SOLID NUMBERS IN A NEW POLL BY THE L.A. TIMES.

Editor's note: A new survey by the L.A. Times (June 10-14, 1,179 registered voters) indicates that if the election were held now, incumbent U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein(D) would easily win another term. Here's our update & analysis...

...The new poll puts DiFi's reelect number at **56%** vs. **36%** who say they are unlikely to vote for her in 2000. Another **8%** are undecided. Among her Demo base, DiFi is drawing **74%** support. Among key moderate and swing voters, DiFi is getting **66%**. And even among the GOP, DiFi is scoring **35%** support. Very impressive and it tracks with a private statewide poll of likely 2000 voters. This particular poll puts DiFi's reelect number at **57-58%**...

...DiFi's job approval rating is running 54% positive vs. 30% negative. By comparison, Calif. Gov. Gray Davis' job approval rating is 54% vs. 17%. Among that key moderate/swing vote crowd, DiFi's approval rating is 55% vs. 21%...

...Thus far, only two GOPers are eyeing a possible run against DiFi: State Sen. Ray Haynes of Riverside and San Diego Co. Sup. Bill Horn. FYI: a Research 2000 poll(May 13-18, 428 likely voters) showed DiFi mashing Haynes, 64% to 31%, with 5% undecided. In terms of Demo challengers, nothing serious thus far. Only one Demo rival has surfaced: Mervin Evans of Culver City, who ran for State Treas. in June of 1998 and got about 250,000 votes...

...DiFi's key issue these days continues to be GUNS and according to the L.A. Times survey, 46% of those surveyed say they are more likely to vote for her because of her stand. DiFi's amendment to ban the im-

portation of high capacity ammo clips survived a House vote and in a news release she says it's possible her amendment will be in the final Senate/House bill. One thing is certain: the House GOP's position on guns could come back to haunt Republican lawmakers in swing CDs next year (Kuykendall, Horn, Rogan)...

...FYI: an interesting article in the June 22nd edition of the L.A. Times by Mark Z. Barabak, where he says it's very unlikely that DiFi will be Al Gore's running mate in 2000. Lots of speculation about DiFi being on the ticket, but our sources have been saying the same thing as Barabak(only more emphatically) for many months. Stay tuned...

A LITTLE VACATION TIME FOR CALPEEK NEXT WEEK

It's not a real vacation, but rather a *working vacation*. We'll be off the week of June 28th (thru July 4th). Lots of work to do on Calpeek's Directory of Campaign Consultants. We will have close to 300 listings in the Millennium edition of the Directory. We anticipate taking the Directory to the printer the week of July 12th. We'll be back at work July 5th and our next issue will be dated July 12th. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN 2000: THE RUN FOR THE WHITE HOUSE.

Editor's note: Last week Calpeek focused on the Demo presidential primary battle. This week we'll look at the GOP battle for the White House. Here's our update & analysis...

...Some DC pundits have already declared Texas Gov. George W. Bush the winner of the GOP presidential nomination. But Calif.'s Mar. 7th 2000 primary is still 9 months away – and much can happen between now and then. True, the *fat lady* may be approaching the stage to sing, but she's not there yet and neither is GWB...

...But obviously no one has told U.S. Sen. Orrin Hatch of Utah that this primary process is over, because the

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65-year-old chair of the Senate Judiciary Cmt. just announced that he's going to run too. That brings the field to 12 and here's how they stacked up in the new L.A. Times poll: GWB(50%), Elizabeth Dole(13%), Steve Forbes(7%), Dan Quayle(6%), Pat Buchanan (5%), Gary Bauer & John McCain at 2% each, Alan Keyes, John Kasich, Bob Smith and *someone else* all at 1%, and don't know at 11%. Lamar Alexander is less than 1%...

... The dozen GOP rivals have 3 goals from now until the Feb. 7th Iowa Caucus in 2000: 1) grab lots of free news media attention; 2) organize in Iowa and New Hampshire; and 3) raise lots of money. These rules apply to all the rivals except Forbes, who with his *very deep pockets* doesn't have to worry about fundraising. And the truth is that of all the Bush rivals, Forbes is the only one who truly worries *Team Bush*. As a Bush source told **Calpeek**, "Forbes can't move his numbers by shaking hands, but he can move up by buying lots of tv," which he has done in Calif. recently (a :30 sec. ad about *privatizing social security*)...

... To compete with Forbes, GWB already has a war-chest of \$20 million (larger than all the others except Forbes) and his June 28 to July 1 Calif. trip is loaded with 7 fundraising events. There's an old saying in politics that there are only two reasons to do an event: money & media. Bush's team is on target...

... So what about the rest of the field? Dole keeps insisting she's only interested in the top spot, but she sure does look like a good VP prospect to many Calif. GOP insiders. Ditto Sen. John McCain, who recently hired former Wilson spinner Dan Schnur as his communications director. Some think McCain is the GOPer who gains the most if GWB stumbles. As for Quayle, he's clueless and his *Bush bashing* does not sit well with some Calif. GOP insiders. Quayle ought to remember it was the late Lee Atwater and GWB who persuaded Bush Sr. to put Quayle on the 1988 ticket...

... As for Buchanan, Bauer, Smith and Keyes – they're running to the far right of GWB, but with little \$\$ it's hard to see them competing with Forbes. Forbes is now the *darling* of some hardliners, who realize that although they like Pat & Gary, they don't have a shot, whereas Forbes does. Alexander is well organized, but like the others, he's hurting for money. Kasich's run is

about the future – or perhaps a spot on the ticket...

... Final line: Will GWB stumble? His rivals sure hope so, but thus far he's handled the attention very well. But there's bound to be something. NARAL is after GWB on abortion – accusing the governor of doing the "Texas Two-Step" on Roe v. Wade. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN 2000: CALIFORNIA INITIATIVE UPDATE.

Editor's note: Here's another update about initiatives aimed for the 2000 Calif. ballot...

◆ ***School Vouchers*** – The official title of yet another voucher measure is **Education. Vouchers. Public Funding of Private & Religious Schools**. This constitutional amendment sponsored by Silicon Valley venture capitalist Timothy C. Draper requires 670,816 by a Nov. 8 deadline – to make the November 2000 ballot. The informal, working name of the committee backing Draper's plan is called *Local Choice 2000*. Draper was a Wilson appointee to the State School Board, but was bounced when Gov. Davis took over. As **Calpeek** hit deadline, Draper and his key backers were meeting to discuss options: 1) go for March (even though it is very late) or November; 2) select a campaign team; and 3) set up a meeting with AG Bill Lockyer because Draper & Co. are not happy with the official ballot title. Our sources say \$\$ is not a problem and insiders anticipate a very loud and expensive fight. Draper can be reached at ☎ (650)599-9000...

◆ ***Car Tax Initiative Update*** – This initiative by GOP Assemblyman Tom McClintock(R) may not qualify. We ran into some petition circulators at K-Mart (3rd & Fairfax – in L.A. across from Farmers Market). They were pushing four initiatives, but the car tax wasn't one of them. This only confirms what we've been hearing on the street: McC doesn't have the \$\$\$\$. Volunteers are still collecting names, but it's probably not enough. And McC is plenty POed, especially at Demo legislative consultants Irwin Nowick and Bill Cavala who did the legal op research on this initiative. And McC even has some GOPers on his "hit list" of those who have *not* played ball...

... FYI: The final budget cut the effective VLF(car tax) to 1.3%, as State Sen. Jim Brulte(R) proposed. The actual bill to implement the cut is AB 1121 by Assemblyman George Nakano(D-Torrance). The cost of this

tax cut will probably run \$500 million. The cost to the General Fund is not cutting the VLF itself, but rather providing money (backfill) to local government, who would ordinarily get all the VLF funds. Given the GOP's fixation on VLF, insiders have little doubt that the VLF will eventually disappear. Stay tuned...

CA GOP INFIGHTING: THE WINNER TAKE ALL MESS.

Editor's note: Please go back and re-read Calpeek's lead story in the June 14th issue. In that story we fully explained what happened with the attempt to kill off the Winner Take All (the GOP presidential nominating delegates) rule. Here's a brief update...

...The deal to keep the Winner Take All rule here in Calif. for the 2000 election was made before the Calif. Republican Party's Rules & Executive Cmtes. even voted. And as expected, both committees, controlled by CRP Chair John McGraw, voted in favor of eliminating the unity rule (winner take all), **PROVIDED** that the Legislature passed a bill by July 1st --- putting this into law. That was deal agreed to by McGraw and Team Bush. And everyone knew from the get-go that the winner-take-all rule would remain for 2000...

...So what happened next? GOP State Senators Ray Haynes (a Bush supporter) and Richard Mountjoy have amended SB 380 (to kill the unity rule), but Senate PPT John Burton(D) won't do anything unless he gets the go ahead from GOP Senate Leader Ross Johnson and GOP Caucus Leader Jim Brulte - and they don't want any changes. (Brulte is a Bush Calif. co-chair). But even if Johnson & Brulte OKed a change, odds are Demos wouldn't approve a bill like this because a spirited GOP presidential primary in Calif. would hike Republican turnout and that could help the remapping initiative by U.S. Rep. Bill Thomas(R-Bakersfield). Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN 2000: UPDATE ON U.S. HOUSE CONTESTS.

Editor's note: Here's another update on U.S. House contests for 2000...

☒ **31st CD** – Get ready for a Demo primary blood bath. Longtime incumbent U.S. Rep. Marty Martinez (D-Alhambra) will be challenged by popular State Sen. Hilda Solis(D-El Monte). Sources say Solis is in the field now with a poll by The Feldman Group. Key issue: GUNS. While Martinez did vote against the final gun bill, he was the only Demo in the Calif. House

delegation who voted **for** the Dingle Amendment. As for Solis, she's never been friendly with the Martinez clan. Solis and former Assemblywoman Diane Martinez (Marty's daughter) were bitter enemies...

☒ **42nd CD** – Our GOP sources in the Inland Empire say U.S. Rep. George Brown(D-Colton) is **not** doing very well – a month following heart valve replacement surgery. But sources in Brown's office say he's doing better, although he did contract an infection and had to go back in the hospital. Brown is 79 and is expected to make an announcement about his political plans in late summer. There are already 3 GOPers looking at the 42nd CD: San Berdu Judge Linda Wilde, attorney Elia Pirozzi (who was mashed by Brown in '98), and Upland businessman John Corry...

☒ **44th CD** – Demo tv/movie producer Jon Gordon of Palm Springs (he's president of the Country Club Homeowners' Assn.) is taking a serious look at challenging U.S. Rep. Mary Bono(R-Palm Springs). If Gordon were to run, his team would include Laguens, Hamburger & Stone on tv/media; Rich Schlackman of Crounse, Malchow & Schlackman on mail; and Decision Research on polling. FYI: Bono voted with her GOP colleagues **for** the weakened gun law...

☒ **22nd CD** – In the battle to unseat Demo U.S. Rep. Lois Capps of Santa Barbara, it looks as though former Santa Barbara Co. Sup. Mike Stoker(R) might have some GOP company: Barbara Balatino. Sound familiar? She was the psychologist who testified before the House Judiciary Cmt. in la affair Lewinsky about perjury. FYI: Stoker has picked up endorsements from 13 Calif. GOP House members. Sources say Capps has been making the fundraising rounds, telling potential contributors she'll have a tough race in November of 2000...

CALPEEK'S CALENDAR OF POLITICAL EVENTS

June 29-July 1	Texas Gov. George Bush(R) in Calif.
July 16	CA Legislature recesses.
July 16-18	UC Davis Extension's 15 th Annual Political Campaign Mgt. Institute @UC Davis.
July 16-19	Council of State Govts. West 1999 annual meeting, Sun Valley, Idaho.
July 24-28	Nat'l Conf. of State Legislatures annual meeting, Indianapolis, IN.

CAMPAIGN 2000: UPDATE ON LEGISLATIVE RACES.

Editor's note: Here's another update on key legislative contests for 2000...

☒ **24th AD** – This is the seat of GOP Assemblyman Jim Cunneen of San Jose, who is *termed out*. This AD will be targeted by the Demos. The only GOP name to surface is that of San Jose Councilwoman Pat Dando, who narrowly lost a bid last year for mayor of Calif.'s 3rd largest city. On the Demo side, we've heard the name of Rebecca Cohn, a Texas transplant who is a management consultant...

☒ **25th SD** – Here's another Hayden-type situation. Demo Assemblyman Dick Floyd is reportedly looking at this SD now held by *termed out* Sen. Teresa Hughes. Floyd is also *termed out* and insiders thought they'd seen the last of him. Another Demo looking seriously at the 25th SD is Assemblymen Ed Vincent. So was Assemblyman Carl Washington, but sources confirm he will seek reelection in 2000 and then run for the L.A. City Council (9th District) in 2001...

☒ **57th AD** – Demo Assemblyman Martin Gallegos has formally endorsed his district coordinator Ed Chavez to replace him in the 57th AD. Chavez also is the Mayor of La Puente...

DOG DAYS OF SUMMER: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few items, political and otherwise, worth noting...

■ **MICRA Wars** – Even though the CA Medical Assn.(CMA) was successful in stopping Assembly Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa's attempt to raise the cap on the medical malpractice awards, the CMA isn't taking any chances. The MDs recently mailed out a fundraising pitch "**Preserve MICRA(Keep trial lawyers out of medicine)**" aimed at 78,000 licensed MDs in Calif. The idea is to raise a credible warchest and use the warchest if trial lawyers or their allies attempt to amend a bill which will allow a COLA increase in the MICRA formula. With the COLA agreement, the \$250,000 cap on "pain & suffering" awards will go up about 4% a year. The MICRA bill is in the Senate...

■ **S.F. Mayor's Update** – FYI: former S.F. Mayor Frank Jordan filed a declaration of intent on June 18th to run for mayor. The declaration will allow the former

mayor to raise funds. Jordan has until Aug. 6th to make a final decision about running...

■ **Newt In the Silicon Valley** – Former GOP House Speaker Newt Gingrich is spending lots of time these days in No. Calif. as a Sr. Fellow at the Hoover Inst. at Stanford University...

■ **El Website Republicano** – The Calif. Republican Party(CRP) now has a website available in *Spanish*. Try www.cagop.org... The CRP even faxed a news release in Spanish: "Hoy, el presidente del partido Republicano de Calif. John McGraw...yada, yada, yada..." You gotta give the CRP credit...

CALPEEK'S NEW JOBS AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

● A sad note: James A. Ware, a perennial GOP candidate for office, died May 24 in L.A. of kidney disease. Ware was 76. In 1978 he upset Assemblyman Dixon Arnett in the primary for controller. R.I.P...

● Dan Pellissier has jumped ship at Stoorza Ziegaus in Sacto to become Director of Member Services for the GOP Assembly Caucus...

● Political insider & attorney Philip Recht is back in L.A. after 4+ years in DC in the DOT as an Asst. Admin. Recht has joined the L.A. law firm of Mayer, Brown & Platt, heading the local political law division. Mickey Kantor is with MB&P in DC...

● Michelle K. Brooks has been hired as an Asst. VP by the Council of Federal Home Loan Banks in DC. ☎ (202)955-0002...

● Tony Winnicker has been hired as a Sr. political associate by S.F.-based Staton & Hughes. Winnicker had been with the DNC as a regional director...

● Mike Gotch, 51, has been named Legislative Affrs. Secretary for Gov. Davis. Gotch replaces Rick Simpson, who resigned on June 18th. Gotch is a former Assemblyman from San Diego...